

COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? June 23, 2009 10:00 a.m.
at Radisson Hotel in La Crosse, WI

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☒ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: Actually, all of the above are important.

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-166-004 | Eastern MN & Western WI - the driftless area, has
beautiful bluffs & valleys. The city of
La Crosse, and the nearby area, continue to
work hard to preserve the beauty of
this area. Although I don't consider the
windmills to be ugly, the idea of huge
power lines moving across MN & WI makes me
wonder if this is the correct way to produce
electricity.

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☐ Agriculture ☐ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: _____

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-166-001

I believe Crossing the Mississippi R.
at any point will have some serious
biological impacts. Also, the footprint
of these huge poles needed for
this power lines will be much
wider than present lines. Think of
the disturbance that this will create
environmentally!

I-166-001

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife, vegetation, and wetlands will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-166-002

*the project description was fine —
purpose and need not clear
to me*

I-166-003

*I wish we could move away from the
idea of huge utilities providing
the energy needs of an area. I
wish we could move toward more
local community provision of
energy: solar panels on residences, businesses,
etc.; hydroelectricity produced by ^{runoff} rivers; using
waste gases for energy, etc.*

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Beverly J. Mach
Representing (Optional): La Crosse County Bd (^{but} my own opinions)
Mailing Address: 2538 S. 30th St.
City: La Crosse State: WI Zip Code: 54601
Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-166-002

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

I-166-003

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-166-004

Your comment has been noted. Please refer to comment response I-166-003.